



# United States Capitol Visitor Center

## Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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In the CVC Exhibition Hall, plaster columns and ceiling details are nearly complete in the Virtual House Theater. The plaster columns will be painted with a faux marble finish to mimic the existing columns in the House Chamber. Both the Virtual House and Senate Theaters include tiered seating that can accommodate up to 30 people. In the theaters, visitors can view films about the House and Senate or see a live feed into the Chambers when Congress is in session. Interactive stations in each theater will allow visitors to learn about their Members of Congress.

### **This Week – Ongoing Work – 4/9/07 through 4/13/07**

- In the Exhibition Hall, workers have installed all of the document cases within both sides of the Wall of Aspirations, including all of the protective glass case doors. A crew has completed the pressure testing of each case to ensure that the door components are sealed properly. Plaster workers have nearly completed work on the walls and faux marble columns in the virtual House Theater and are now working in the virtual Senate Theater.
- In the Food Service Area workers have installed all of the main cabinet and banquette seating components and are now awaiting the delivery of the stone countertops and base stone. Testing and balancing of the air handling system for the Food Service Area is ongoing.
- Masons continue setting wall stone in the East Front of the Capitol.
- In the East Front transition zone the escalator contractor has completed installing and connecting mechanical elements and the escalators are now operational. In the Carriageway, workers have installed the steel support system for the glass panels that will enclose the transition zone. The glass panels allow views of the House and Senate wings.
- Masons continue setting floor stone in the upper level north corridor adjacent to the Great Hall. This is the last major area of floor space to be completed within the CVC.
- Ceiling plaster work and painting are nearly complete at the Crypt level within the East Front transition zone.
- Work continues in the transition zone between the Library of Congress tunnel and the Jefferson Building. Installation of fascia and wall marble at the main stairs and plaster work at the cellar level are nearing completion.

- Millwork is ongoing in the upper level panels in the Congressional Auditorium. Workers have nearly completed installing millwork to the corner walls in corridors leading to the Auditorium.
- Masons have completed the exterior stone work on the walls flanking the north and south monumental stairs and along the north and south entrance approaches. Masons have also completed the wall stone along the face of the CVC entrance zones.
- Delivery of the CVC's exterior 12-foot-high bronze doors is expected to begin early next week.
- Steel and concrete placements are complete for the structure and slabs of a spiral staircase in the Senate and House Expansion Spaces. Installation of bronze railings and floor stone work on the stair landings will continue through this month.
- Mechanical contractors have completed the testing and balancing of the air handling systems for the Great Hall.
- A paving contractor will complete paving around the House Triangle. Vehicle access will be maintained from the security gate to the House Steps at all times. Weather permitting, this work will be completed by Friday, April 13.



A mason continues setting stone in one of two CVC gift shops.

## **Next Week – 4/16/07 – 4/20/07**

### **CVC and East Front Plaza Work**

- Floor stone installation will near completion in an upper level corridor on the north side of the Great Hall.
- Wall stone installation will continue in several areas within the East Front of the Capitol.
- Workers may begin installing the specially-cut glass floor panels in the Exhibition Hall. Ceiling panel installation will continue on the north side of the Hall and plaster work will continue in the virtual Senate Theater.
- Millwork installation will continue on wall panels in the Congressional Auditorium.
- Installation of kitchen equipment will continue in the Food Service Area. All flooring and wall finishes are completed. Mechanical crews are expected to complete the air testing and balancing in this area.
- Masons will continue setting exterior stone along the south side CVC entrance zone, particularly for the piers between the bronze railings that line the curving path at the Plaza level.
- Installation of bronze doors may begin at the CVC north entrance.
- Installation of wood and bronze door frames will continue in many areas throughout the CVC.
- Masons will continue installing floor stone and setting sandstone columns in the CVC gift shops (see top photo).



The CVC entrance zones are now being cleared and graded to make way for final sidewalk work, landscaping, installation of lampposts and other restoration activities, which will occur into the summer. As can be seen in this photo, the gently sloping approaches to the CVC entrances preserve the sense of procession to the Capitol.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at [tfontana@oc.gov](mailto:tfontana@oc.gov) or visit the project web site at [www.oc.gov](http://www.oc.gov). Be sure to click on the "Capitol Visitor Center" link on the homepage.